

OLC 78-0782

24 February 1978

*Briefing**Entire Package
filed MFR*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 24 February 1978 Briefing of Senator Richard Stone (D., Fla.) on the Predicted Reaction in Central America and the Caribbean Should the U.S. Senate Not Ratify the Panama Canal Treaties

25X1 1. [] On 24 February 1978 Senator Richard Stone was briefed on possible Caribbean and Central American reactions in the event that the U.S. Senate did not ratify the Panama Canal Treaties. The briefing took place in the Senator's office (1327 Dirksen Senate Office Building) and lasted from 0910 until 1020 hours. The briefing was not monitored [] No transcription was taken.

25X1 2. [] In addition to the Senator, Gene Parvin and Barry Schoenhet, both of the Senator's staff, attended the briefing. The briefers were: [] both of ORPA, [] NFAC/CSS, and [] Office of Legislative Counsel.

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25X1 4. [] The bulk of the briefing session, which was predominantly on a non-classified level, dealt with possible reactions in Central America and the Caribbean in the event that the U.S. Senate were to refuse to ratify the Panama Canal Treaties. The sense of the area was that all countries would prefer to see the treaties ratified, that non-ratification would probably not significantly alter bilateral relationships with the U.S., but that non-ratification would almost certainly

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